

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling access to content in a multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects, the method comprising:

receiving configuration information related to a one of the plurality of user objects from a user via an access device of the plurality of access devices, the configuration information defining multimedia content that can be accessed by instantiating the user object in an access device, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the system and the user can access the system by logging on to the user object, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device; and

providing the received configuration information from the multimedia communication network system to another access device of the plurality of access devices.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving revised configuration information related to the user object via an access device of the plurality of access devices and providing the received revised configuration information to all of the access devices of the plurality of access devices.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving configuration information related to a plurality of user objects via one or more of the access devices of the plurality of access devices and providing the configuration information to all of the access devices of the plurality of access devices.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising assigning a ticket number to the revised configuration information.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising storing the ticket number in a revision history in the multimedia communication network system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the revision history is stored in a server of the multimedia communication network system.

7. (Currently Amended) A control system for controlling access to content in a multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects, the control system comprising:

means for receiving configuration information related to a one of the plurality of user objects from a user via an access device of the plurality of access devices, the configuration information defining multimedia content that can be accessed by instantiating the user object in an access device, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the multimedia communication network system and [[a]] the user can access the multimedia communication network system by logging on to the user object, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device; and

means for providing the received configuration information to another access device of the plurality of access devices.

8-9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The control system of claim 9, further comprising means for assigning a ticket number to the revised configuration information.

11. (Original) The control system of claim 10, further comprising a revision history for storing the ticket number.

12. (Original) The control system of claim 11, wherein the revision history is stored in a server of the multimedia communication network system.

13. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium for use in a multimedia communication network comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects, the machine-readable medium containing instructions, the instructions when executed by a machine cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving configuration information related to a one of the plurality of user objects from a user via an access device of the plurality of access devices, the configuration information defining multimedia content that can be accessed by instantiating the user object in an access device, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the system and the user can access the network by logging on to the user object, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device; and

providing the received configuration information to another access device of the plurality of access devices for storage on that access device.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the operations further comprise assigning a ticket number to the revised configuration information.

17. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the operations further comprise storing the ticket number in a revision history stored in the machine-readable medium.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of providing configuration information related to a user object of a multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, the method comprising:

receiving a portion of the configuration information related to a one of the plurality of user objects from a user via an access device of the plurality of access devices, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the system and a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device;

assigning a ticket number to the received portion of the configuration information;

storing the ticket number in a revision history; and

providing the ticket number to the access device.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:

setting a bit in a bit vector, the bit vector having a plurality of bits each being associated to a corresponding configuration parameter of the user object; wherein the set bit indicates the configuration parameter associated with the received configuration information; and

providing the bit vector to the access device.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the revision history has a fixed size.

21. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising providing the portion of the configuration information to a second access device of the plurality of access devices.

22. (Currently Amended) An update system for providing configuration information related to a user object of a multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects and a revision history, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, the system comprising:

means for receiving a portion of the configuration information related to a one of the plurality of user objects from a user via an access device of the plurality of access devices, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the multimedia communication network system and the user can access the multimedia communication network system by logging on to the user object, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device;

means for assigning a ticket number to the received portion of the configuration information;

means for storing the ticket number in the revision history; and

providing the ticket number to the access device.

23. (Original) The update system of claim 22, further comprising:

means for setting a bit in a bit vector, the bit vector having a plurality of bits each being associated to a corresponding configuration parameter of the user object; wherein the set bit indicates the configuration parameter associated with the received configuration information; and

means for providing the bit vector to the access device.

24. (Original) The update system of claim 22, wherein the revision history has a fixed size.

25. (Original) The update system of claim 22, further comprising means for providing the portion of the configuration information to a second access device of the plurality of access devices.

26. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium for use in a multimedia communication network system to provide configuration information related to a user object, the multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, the machine-readable medium containing instructions which, when executed by an apparatus, cause the apparatus to perform operations comprising:

receiving a portion of the configuration information related to a one of the plurality of user objects from a user via an access device of the plurality of access devices, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the system and the user can access the system by logging on to the user object, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device;

assigning a ticket number to the received portion of the configuration information;

storing the ticket number in a revision history; and

providing the ticket number to the access device.

27. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the operations further comprise:

setting a bit in a bit vector, the bit vector having a plurality of bits each being associated to a corresponding configuration parameter of the user object; wherein the set bit indicates the configuration parameter associated with the received configuration information; and

providing the bit vector to the access device.

28. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the revision history has a fixed size.

29. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the operations further comprise providing the portion of the configuration information to a second access device of the plurality of access devices.

30. (Currently Amended) A method of providing updated configuration information related to a user object of a multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, the system including a revision history configured to store identifiers and bit vectors associated with updates to the configuration information related to a one of the plurality of user objects, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the system and a user can access the system by logging on to the user object, the method comprising:

receiving an identifier from an access device of the plurality of access devices, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device;

determining an update vector as a function of the received identifier and any identifiers in the revision history that are more recently associated with an update than the received identifier; and providing the update vector to the access device.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising providing a portion of updated configuration information to the access device at the request of the access device, wherein the access device generates the request in response to the update vector.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising providing to the access device the most recent identifier of the identifiers used in determining the update vector.

33. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein determining the update vector further comprises generating the update vector as a function of the bit vectors associated with the identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the function of the bit vectors comprises the logical-OR of the bit vectors associated with the identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

35. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium for use in a multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and a plurality of user objects, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, the system including a revision history configured to store identifiers and bit vectors associated with updates to the configuration information related to [[a]] the plurality of user objects, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the

system and a user can access the system by logging on to a one of the plurality of user objects, the machine-readable medium providing instructions that when executed by a machine cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving an identifier from an access device of the plurality of access devices, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device;

determining an update vector as a function of the received identifier and any identifiers in the revision history that are more recently associated with an update than the received identifier; and
providing the update vector to the access device.

36. (Previously presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the operations further comprise providing a portion of updated configuration information to the access device at the request of the access device, wherein the access device generates the request in response to the update vector.

37. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the operations further comprise providing to the access device the most recent identifier of the identifiers used in determining the update vector.

38. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the operation of determining the update vector further comprises an operation of generating the update vector as a function of the bit vectors associated with the identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

39. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the function of the bit vectors comprises the logical-OR of the bit vectors associated with the identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

40. (Currently Amended) An update system for providing updated configuration information related to a one of a plurality of user objects of a multimedia communication network system comprising a household having a plurality of access devices and the plurality of user objects, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, the multimedia communication network system including a revision history configured to store identifiers and bit vectors associated with updates to the configuration information related to the user object, wherein each of the user objects defines interaction of a respective user with the multimedia communication network system and a user can access the multimedia communication network system by logging on to the user object, the update system comprising:

means for receiving an identifier from an access device of the plurality of access devices, wherein a plurality of the user objects are stored simultaneously on the access device;

means for determining an update vector as a function of the received identifier and any identifiers in the revision history that are more recently associated with an update than the received identifier; and

means for providing the update vector to the access device.

41. (Original) The update system of claim 40, further comprising means for providing to the access device the most recent identifier of the identifiers used by the means for determining in determining the update vector.

42. (Previously presented) The update system of claim 40, further comprising means for providing a portion of updated configuration information to the access device at the request of the access device, wherein the access device generates the request in response to the update vector.

43. (Original) The update system of claim 40, wherein the means for determining the update vector further comprises means for generating the update vector as a function of the bit vectors associated with the identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

44. (Previously Presented) The update system of claim 43, wherein the function of the bit vectors comprises the logical-OR of the bit vectors associated with the identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the multimedia communication network system is an interactive television system.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the access device is a set top box for an interactive television system.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the multimedia content comprises television content.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user object comprises a username and a password.